



# **TUCSON VETERAN HOME GROUNDBREAKING**

Gov. Janice K. Brewer  
Friday, March 19, 2010

It is an honor to be with you this afternoon -- on this very special day.

Since World War Two, an estimated twenty-six-million Americans have guarded the cold, front lines -- patrolled the skies and seas -- and guarded our shores.

Today, about 600-thousand of those veterans make Arizona home.

And, today is a special day for all of Arizona's veterans, as we take the first steps -- the first shovels full -- toward building a second Arizona State Veteran Home to -- serve those who have served us so well.

We have come a long way since the State of Arizona first proposed building this Veteran Home in 2004.

So, let me thank the federal Veterans Administration and members of the Arizona Legislature for providing the funds necessary to make this dream start to come true.

When completed, this new veteran home will meet the long-term health care needs of our veterans and their spouses in a comfortable, home-like environment.

And, while this will be the second veteran home operated by the State of Arizona, there is still more to do.

We need more of these homes for our veterans

We need a home to serve the Yuma area.

We need a home to serve northern Arizona.

And, we need a home that will serve those veterans who live in the Kingman – Bullhead City – Lake Havasu area.

While these needs and dreams are not yet reality, we can -- and we ARE planning for the times ahead when we can break ground for those homes as well.

But, today, our veterans eyes are on Tucson and the ground we break to make the “Arizona State Veteran Home – Tucson” -- a reality!

To all of Arizona’s veterans, I say, Thank you – for your sacrifices – for your sense of duty – and for your service.

Our veterans are a part of us, part of our state, part of our history. We honor them by fulfilling our solemn compact with those who faithfully served -- sailor, airman, marine, and coast guardsman.

When history tells our grandchildren how we lived today, it will be written that Arizona remains great because it was true to the men and women who kept us free, it kept the faith with those who held high the flag.